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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/033,714	12/28/2001	Ronald Vern Schauer	5126USA/CPS/IBSS	8630
24033	7590	12/05/2005	EXAMINER	
KONRAD RAYNES & VICTOR, LLP			ALLEN, STEPHONE B	
315 S. BEVERLY DRIVE			ART UNIT	
# 210			PAPER NUMBER	
BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90212			2878	

DATE MAILED: 12/05/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/033,714	SCHAUER, RONALD VERN	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Stephone B. Allen	2878	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-92 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20,30-32,44-62 and 92 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 24,25,33,34,36,63,81 and 82 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 21-23,26-29,35,37-43,64-80 and 83-91 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

This action is in response to applicant's attorney drawing the examiner's attention to informalities in the previous office action that needed correction by examiner so that the office action was clear and understandable. Due to the issues that needed correction, the time for responding to the previous office action will be restarted and the time period beginning at the time of mailing of this present office action.

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-92 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

The amendment filed December 28, 2004 is objected to under 35 U.S.C. 132(a) because it introduces new matter into the disclosure. 35 U.S.C. 132(a) states that no amendment shall introduce new matter into the disclosure of the invention. The added material that is not supported by the original disclosure is as follows: Claims 21-29, 33-43 and 63-72 and 74-91 contain reference to a specific type of scanner, i.e. a flatbed scanner or a transparent scanning surface. These features were not disclosed or claimed in originally filed specification, claims or drawings.

For examining purposes, these claims will be treated as originally filed.

Applicant is required to cancel the new matter in the reply to this Office Action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 24, 25, 33, 34 and 36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by EP 1158571 to Shimizu et al. (Shimizu).

Shimizu discloses (Figure 1) a system for measuring a feature (calibration marks) on a side of a wafer carrier comprising a mounting structure scanned by an optical scanner; the mounting structure has calibration marks scanned for measuring position of the carrier. This information is used for detecting the distance or position between the carrier and mark (Paragraphs 37-41).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 63, 81 and 82 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shimizu et al. (Shimizu).

Shimizu fails to specifically disclose the inclusion of a processing unit capable of executing software routines, or computer usable media, however due to the advancements in automation technology, the inclusion of such would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the to include, in order to limit inaccuracies due to human error.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 26-29, 35, 37-42, 64-80 and 83-91 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 21-23 objected to for the inclusion of new matter will be considered allowable, if amended such that they no longer have the inclusion of the new matter.


Claims 1-20, 30-32, 44-62 and 92 are allowed because the prior art fails to disclose the use of pitch calibration marks to detect the position of the carrier.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Stephone B. Allen whose telephone number is 571-272-2434. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 08:30-5:00PM.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Georgia Epps can be reached on 571-272-2328. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Stephone B Allen
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2878

sba